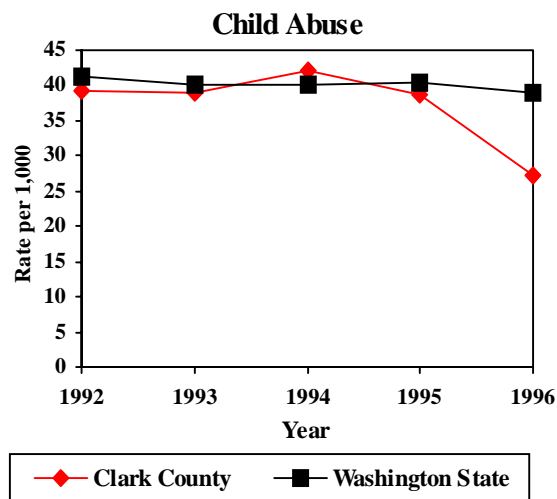


Child Abuse and Neglect

One measure of child well-being is the number of investigations conducted by Child Protective Services into possible abuse or neglect against Clark County children. Children are defined as being less than 18 years of age.

- In 1996, the rate of child abuse investigations in Clark County was 27.2 per 1,000 children as compared to a statewide rate of 39.1 per 1,000.
- Between 1992 and 1995 the rate of child abuse investigations in Clark County fluctuated between 38.7 and 42.1 per 1,000 before dropping sharply in 1996. There is insufficient information to determine what caused this decline.

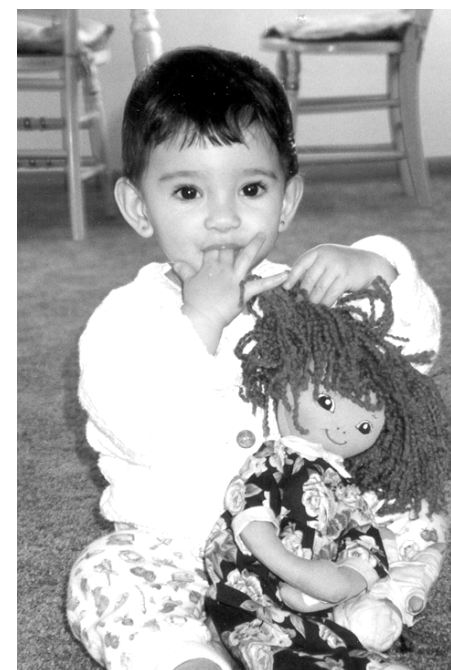


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Southwest Washington Health District

Child Health

in Clark County



Our focus on youth well being examines three issues: childhood immunization status, child abuse, and non-fatal injuries due to falls. These areas were targeted because the problems arising in each case are preventable. Prevention of these problems is among the most effective means of ensuring and maintaining youth well-being.

Childhood Immunization

In 1994 and 1995 the immunization status of Clark County and Washington State children aged 19 to 35 months was studied. The study identified the percent of the population in this age group who had the following immunization series: 4 doses of DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) vaccine, 3 doses of polio vaccine, 1 dose of MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine.

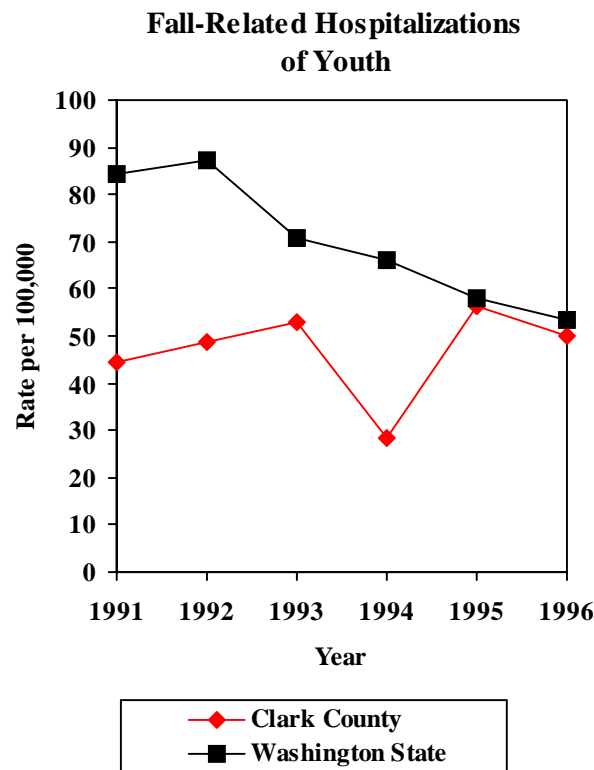
- The national goal for the year 2000 goal is that 90% of children be immunized with the series mentioned above.
- In 1994, 66% of children were immunized in Clark County, and in 1995, approximately 78% of children were immunized statewide.



Fall-Related Hospitalizations

Since 1991, one of the most common reasons for non-fatal hospitalization of children under the age of 18 are injuries caused by falls, jumps and shoves.

- Since 1991, fall-related hospitalizations among Clark County youth increased while the same rate statewide decreased.



- The most common types of fall-related injuries for this age group were caused by falling from playground equipment, falling on the same level from slipping, tripping or stumbling, or falling from one level to another that did not involve furniture or cliffs.
- Boys were more likely to be hospitalized for such injuries than girls.
- Between 1991 and 1996 there was only one death due to fall-related injuries.

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